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Foreign Report****IN THE U.S. A THING OF****■ Terpil Tried in Absentia**

NEW YORK — Two fugitives who jumped \$100,000 bail in the fall to avoid charges they sold 10,000 machine guns to undercover agents went on trial in absentia in state Supreme Court in Manhattan yesterday.

The suspects are Frank Terpil, 40, a former CIA agent from McLean, Va., and George Korkala, 38, of Nutley, N.J., president of a New Jersey electronics firm called Amsteh International.

The pair was arrested in 1979 after they allegedly negotiated to sell the machine guns and ammunition for \$2.5 million to detectives who were posing as South American revolutionaries.